

**TOPIC: APPROVAL OF GIFTED AND TALENTED SPECIALIST
TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY OF
COLORADO - COLORADO SPRINGS**

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I. SUMMARY

This item requests initial approval for the University of Colorado - Colorado Spring (UCCS) to offer a teacher endorsement in Gifted and Talented Specialist (9.05).

II. BACKGROUND

The Gifted and Talented Specialist (9.05) endorsement is an add-on endorsement for already licensed teachers who want more specialized training. Candidates in this program may elect to participate in either a Graduate Level Certificate Program for 26 credit hours or the M.A. Curriculum and Instruction degree with a Gifted and Talented Specialist emphasis, which includes three additional graduate level courses in education. This program will prepare teachers at the elementary and secondary levels to help gifted and talented students reach their full potential. The two other programs in Colorado of this kind are at the University of Denver and the University of Northern Colorado.

III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL

At its June 3, 2010 meeting, State Board of Education approved the content of UCCS's proposed Gifted and Talented Specialist program. CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to the Department of Higher Education (DHE).

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121, the DHE confirmed that UCCS's proposed Gifted and Talented Specialist program meets all statutory performance measures.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the proposed Gifted and Talented Specialist program at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute, policy, and the final report from the on-site review team are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

VII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

22-60.5 C.R.S.

23-1-121 C.R.S.